

C A S E S

IN WHICH

VELNOS' VEGETABLE SYRUP

HAS CURED THE

SCURVY, RHEUMATISM, PALSY,

And the most deplorable Effects of the

VENEREAL DISEASE;

WITH

An Account of the Artifices and Impostures used, to pass
on the Public the common Decoction of the Woods,
poisoned with Sublimated Mercury, for the

GENUINE SYRUP

OF

MR. DE VELNOS.

By ISAAC SWAINSON,

Sole Proprietor of the original Recipe, and only Successor
to the late Mr. De VELNOS and Dr. MERCIER, at
No. 21, Frith-street, Soho, London.

M.DCC.LXXXV.

C A S E S

WHEREIN Velnos' Vegetable Syrup has been attended with success, and which confirm the general opinion of its efficacy, in all complaints arising from scorbutic habits and venereal injuries.

Dr. Cheyne, in his Essay on Health and long Life, says, "There is no chronical distemper whatsoever more universal, more obstinate, and more fatal in Britain than the *scurvy*, taken in its general extent. Scarce any one chronical disorder but owes its origin to a scorbutic cachexy, or is so complicated with it, that it furnishes its most cruel and most obstinate symptoms. To it we owe *all the dropsies* that happen after the meridian of life; all diabetes, asthmas, consumptions of several kinds, many sorts of cholics and diarrhoeas; some kinds of gout and rheumatisms; all *palsies*; various kinds of ulcers, and possibly the cancer itself; most cutaneous foulnesses, weakly constitutions, bad digestions, vapours, melancholies, and almost all nervous distempers whatsoever."

The Vegetable Syrup of M. de Velnos, in the experience of twenty years, both in France and England, and in spite of the numerous injuries to its reputation by the pretended imitations and improvements of it, by Burrows, Hodson, and others, wholly unacquainted with its ingredients, has furnished in detail the clearest proofs that the general opinion of Dr. Cheyne was well founded.

The proprietor of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup hath difficulties with respect to cases which he hopes gradually to remove. The medicine is so certain and so pleasant a remedy in all diseases for which it is advertised, and the directions are so minute, that the trouble and parade of consultation, and those arts of empiricism which the folly of patients sometimes renders necessary and profitable, are avoided. The utmost care and attention are given in a long laborious preparation, to answer the public opinion of this wonderful medicine. Not a single complaint has been made of inconvenience or injury from it; and its virtues and effects are subjects of gratitude and praise to every person who has used it. While the proprietor, therefore, professes himself very ready to furnish such information and directions as his experience has afforded, without fee or reward, he assures the public, that in all the cases he recollects, and which are left on record by his predecessors, by the assistance of the paper given with the medicine, *every man may be his own physician*. This circumstance, however, has

preserved in secrecy ninety-nine cases out of a hundred cured by the Vegetable Syrup. As it is known that Mr. Swainson is collecting accounts of extraordinary cures performed by the Vegetable Syrup, *not to be published*, but to be left open for inspection at the house, as the cures of diseases were in ancient times in the temples of the gods, it is hoped, from the justice and humanity of those who have found relief by it, that they will favour him with the fullest information.

Besides the disadvantage of an information which may be called scanty, considering the extensive use and effects of this medicine, there is another from the disrepute in which advertised cases are often held. The proprietor of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup cannot wonder at such disrepute, when he sees those who dishonour his property by their pretended imitations and improvements, advertise cures which they have either translated from M. de Velnos' French pamphlet, or which were performed many years ago, when some of the impostors were employed merely to sell his Vegetable Syrup. But few persons of credit and rank will set their names to an advertisement, or suffer their misfortunes to be made public. The testimony of low and wretched persons is on many accounts dubious and suspicious. The following cases are as unexceptionable as they are extraordinary and important. It is hoped they will be attended to, as *directions for inquiry* on subjects so interesting to the public.

C A S E I. *Leprosy.*

Mr. Robert Hutton, at the Penny Post-office, opposite Mount-row, Lambeth-marsh, was for years afflicted with the most violent scurvy. The eruptions and pustules were confluent, and covered the whole body in such a manner, that the disorder was pronounced a leprosy. While an out-patient at St. George's hospital, and probably in the use of mercurial medicines, his joints, particularly his right ankle, had hard and painful swellings; his knee was contracted; and a hectic fever, want of appetite and rest, almost brought him to his grave. The first bottle of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup gave him hope; and his cure was effected in six weeks.

Witnesses to the cure—J. Willis, master of the Thatched-house tavern, St. James-street; R. Sutton, master of the Ladies Coterie, Albemarle-street.

C A S E II. *Rheumatic Gout.*

Mr. Thomas Joyce, of Warwick Row, Coventry, in the year 1782, had a violent rheumatic gout, and was deprived of the use of his limbs, which some time after he partially recovered, though the gout was not eradicated. In the beginning of the year 1784 the disorder put on a complicated appearance, and he was so far from finding relief from the Materia Medica, that the disease acquired greater malignity in proportion to the application of medicines; and in the September of the same year, he was so reduced as to be incapable to walk without assistance. When he entered on

a course

a course of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup, in September 1784, he had hard swellings in various parts of his body, particularly on the shin bones; his legs and feet were swollen — pains in every part of his body — spitting of blood — total loss of strength — depression of spirits, and a voracious appetite, were alarming symptoms in his emaciated and declining state. On taking the Syrup of Mr. De Velnos, he gradually and rapidly got better. In the latter end of December, he was perfectly restored to health; and from being a skeleton, his person assumed a full and lusty appearance. In February, 1785, he took cold, which terminated in an *ague*, and in the third fit he took five spoonfuls of the Syrup of Mr. De Velnos, which immediately brought on a profuse perspiration, totally expelled the *ague*, which returned no more, and he is now in perfect health.

May, 1785.

C A S E III. *Scorbutic Rheumatism.*

Mr. Thomas Howels, Lambeth-marsh, had a long scorbutic complaint, attended with rheumatic pains, which became at last a general and confirmed rheumatism. The pains in every part of his body were so excruciating, and he was rendered so feeble and helpless, that the assistance necessary to turn him in bed kept him for three months in mortal agonies. Two gentlemen of the faculty attended him, whom he will have the candour privately to name; but he was so far from finding relief, that they procured no alleviation of his disorder. He was recommended by Mr. Hutton, at the Penny Post-office, to the use of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup. The first bottle brought on a perspiration, and mitigated the pains; and in less than two months he was restored to perfect health. Mr. Swainson can refer to a multitude of persons who have been cured of the rheumatism.

Witnesses to the cure — Joseph Hopkins, surgeon, No. 85, Compton-street, Soho; Robert Hutton, at the Penny Post-office, Lambeth-marsh.

C A S E IV. *Scrophula.*

Mr. John Lane, master of the Angel inn and livery stables, Birmingham, was afflicted several years by a most inveterate scrophula; almost the whole body was covered with pimples and scales; the face, head, arms and legs were particularly affected, and the matter or humour it discharged was so thin, hot and corrosive, as to eat into the flesh with excessive pain. In this deplorable situation, with the usual aggravations of want of appetite and sleep, he was advised to try the Vegetable Syrup of M. de Velnos; and in less than three months he was perfectly cured, to the astonishment of his acquaintance, as well as to his own satisfaction and joy.

Witnesses — P. F. Bourgeois, merchant, Birmingham; Thomas Warren, printer, ditto.

Mr. Swainson has leave to refer to several persons who have been cured in similar conditions.

C A S E V. *Scrophula.*

Mrs. Wood, No. 53, Berwick-street, Oxford-road, had scorbutic eruptions on several parts of her body, and applied for relief to many gentleman of the faculty, who administered the usual medicines on such occasions. The eruptions became ulcers, which spread themselves gradually over the body, and rendered her wretchedly offensive to herself, as well as troublesome, and an object of compassion to those around her. In these circumstances she had recourse to certain celebrated drops, which gave her temporary relief: but her former symptoms returning with greater violence, she was reduced to despair, and would not long have supported herself under her afflictions.

Hearing that the Vegetable Syrup of M. de Velnos, when obtained genuine, never failed of affecting a cure in such cases, she applied in Frith-street, and was restored to a perfect state of health.

Witnesses — William Augustus Willis, M. D. Chelsea; John Mortimer, apothecary, Frith-street, Soho.

C A S E VI. *A schirrous Testicle.*

To Mr. Isaac Swainson, in Partnership with Dr. Mercier, at No. 21, Frith-street, Soho.

In January 1778, while at New York, I had a cold and sore throat for three weeks, and my left testicle was prodigiously enlarged and softened. For what reason I cannot guess, the disorder passed to the right; which continued three months in a similar state, but by degrees grew hard. I came to England in May, but did not apply for assistance till August, when a surgeon at Kingston upon Thames advised the suspension of it in a truss. I adopted this method for a year and a half: but it became so painful, and was attended with such a general loss of health, that I had recourse to one of the most eminent and humane surgeons in London, who pronounced it a schirrous case, and advised the extraction of it as the only means of recovering my health; hinting it, as his opinion, that it had arisen from some unfortunate female connection. This, I knew, could not be the case. I determined not to submit to the dangerous operation he proposed; and he ordered me gentle physic, and camphorated spirits, as an embrocation. After using the latter two months without relief, I applied, by his advice, a poultice of linseed meal, &c. for three months more: but having no prospect of a cure, I began to sink under the most melancholy despair. On applying a poultice of bread and milk for some months, it broke, and there issued a thin, watery matter, of a dusky colour, which every day grew thicker and more offensive. I was then persuaded to consult a physician, who is now abroad; he ordered extract of hemlock internally, and a fomentation of hemlock and camomile. These dreadful medicines, after long trial, affording me no relief, tended only to confirm the despair, under which I must have sunk, if I had not heard of the astonishing effect of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup, in recovering Mrs. Swainson of a palsy, occasioned by a scorbutic habit; and your determination in consequence to purchase a share in the property

perty of it, and to add the sanction of your character for judgement and integrity to its other recommendations to the notice and relief of your fellow creatures.

The state of the scrotum, and the enormous size and condition of the right testicle, you might better describe than I can. The inflammation, which had reached the abdomen, was very alarming, and threatened a mortification. I was bled, and took two doses of physic by your direction. I then took the Syrup, which in a few days totally removed the inflammation. The second bottle produced a copious discharge of matter; the swelling decreased; and it is impossible to express what I felt at the prospect which I had lost for five years, that my health and spirits would return. Before I had taken the fifth bottle, my wounds were healed, and the diseased part restored to a state of perfect soundness and health. I took two bottles more by way of security: and having been recovered from a state of misery, wretchedness and despair, by means of your Syrup, I think it my duty to thank you for the attention you paid me, and to intreat you will communicate my case to the world, that others in similar circumstances may experience the surprizing virtues of your Syrup, and enjoy the relief and happiness which it has brought to me.

I shall take the greatest pleasure in answering the inquiries of any persons you may refer to me.

I am, Sir, with gratitude and respect,
your much obliged, and

most obedient humble servant,

Feb. 5, 1784.

ELLIS PRICE,

No. 43, Maiden-lane, Covent-garden.

Attested by Thomas Mainwaring, apothecary, Strand; and William Naylor, apothecary, Bedford-street, Covent-garden.

CASE VII. *Palsy.*

Mrs. Swainson, No. 12, Great May's-buildings, St. Martin's-lane, in the winter of the year 1782, had a stroke of the palsy; it nearly took away the use of her left side, particularly her arm, which seemed totally dead. An apothecary of great skill and reputation ordered the arm to be rubbed with a blistering ointment, which inflamed it to a great degree; and it remained many days in that shocking state, notwithstanding the incessant application of fomentations and poultices. Some scorbutic symptoms appearing about her, Mr. Swainson recollected that some years before she had been relieved of eruptions and pimples by Velnos' Vegetable Syrup, for which she had taken great quantities of drops and diet drinks in vain. Mr. Swainson had hopes, that the Syrup might also abate and remove the inflammation in the arm; but not the slightest that the palsy would be affected. To the great astonishment and joy of the whole family, a warmth was felt through the diseased side, which for many weeks had been as cold as ice. The transports of a condemned criminal, on receiving a pardon, could not be greater than her's; for she had been left hopeless by the faculty. In about three months she was perfectly cured, and re-

restored to a better state of health than she had enjoyed for many years.

As this event determined Mr. Swainson (not to become a quack doctor, for he will never sink the uniform reputation of his life to act in that suspicious and injurious capacity) but to purchase at a very high price the original receipt of Mr. de Velnos, and to pledge himself to see it prepared and sold with the strictest integrity and honour, it is his happiness that he can, in addition to his own, and that of Mrs. Swainson, refer to the testimony of all his friends, and almost all his acquaintance, for the truth of this extraordinary event in his family.

C A S E VIII. *Palsy.*

Mr. John Farquharson, No. 51, Queen Ann-street East, near Portland chapel, had a paralytic stroke in the year 1780, which took away the use of his left side. He had the advice and prescriptions of two eminent physicians; but the disorder baffled their skill. The case of Mrs. Swainson being known, he was advised to apply in Frith-street. The disorder had remained upon him three years, and his age was beyond sixty; he was, however, cured by the Vegetable Syrup of Mr. de Velnos, and is now in very good health.

Mr. Swainson has leave to refer to persons who found relief in the palsy.

C A S E IX. *Tumors, Ulcers, &c.*

In the year 1780, Samuel Pogmore was induced by the heat of the weather to go into the water in a state of high perspiration. This occasioned almost immediately a thick eruption over the whole body. Whether any latent disease of a venereal or scorbutic nature might predispose his constitution to this eruption, or it was the effect of a sudden obstruction of perspiration, is not easy from his account to determine. He applied to several medical gentlemen, and took medicines, (mercurial or antimonial without doubt, for they are the nostrums of the faculty.) The pimples became tumors, which produced large ulcers in almost every part of his body. The matter discharged was so great in quantity, as to stiffen his clothes: it was so fetid and offensive, and wasted his strength so rapidly, that he could derive no consolation but from the near approach of death. In this condition he was recommended to Mr. Swainson, the latter end of the summer 1783, by Mr. Dutton. He is now completely cured and in perfect health.

SAMUEL POGMORE.

At the Castle and Falcon, Holborn.

Witness—Benjamin Dutton, Bedford-street, Covent-garden.

It is necessary to observe, that in all the cases above mentioned, or in any similar to them, patients prevent a relapse, and preserve themselves in health, by taking a very small quantity of Syrup in the spring and autumn of every year; whereas a cure will in many cases require a considerable quantity.

VENEREAL CASES.

THE reader may suppose, from the ideas of criminality and shame usually annexed to venereal disorders, that no reference can be made to one person in five hundred who is cured of them. The Vegetable Syrup, if prepared according to the original receipt of Mr. de Velnos, is known throughout Europe to be a specific in every stage of the venereal disease, so much above all others in the certainty of its success, in the benignity and pleasantness of its operations, and in the practicability of using it without suspicion or discovery, that patients cure themselves without any personal communication with the proprietor. Most of those persons who apply are such as have been greatly injured, or given up as hopeless, in the use of mercury or antimony, by the usual prescriptions of practitioners, by the use of pills and drops, which are medicines too violent for horses, and by having been imposed upon by the common preparations of the Woods, with the addition of a little sublimated mercury or antimonial wine, vended with an unfeeling audaciousness and cruelty to the public, as well as to the proprietor, under names and appellations similar to the Vegetable Syrup of Mr. de Velnos!

Such patients are generally of some reputable rank and condition in life; and it is always their request, which is strictly observed, that their cases may not be published; many of them, however, are registered, though never without consent; and such private references are made to them, as must be satisfactory to every person who seeks relief in similar circumstances.

CASE I. *In a Letter.*

To Doctor MERCIER.

SIR,

Gratitude for benefit received by your specific, known under the name of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup, is my only motive for thus addressing and laying my case before you, as well as with a desire that the afflicted may, from the knowledge of its virtues, hope for the cure of their disorders. Some time ago, and in consequence of a certain disorder complicated with the scurvy, being in a despairing condition, it being proof against all the art of the faculty, a friend of mine, who had been cured of a most inveterate scurvy by the use of your Syrup, advised me to take the same, which I did, to the quantity of four bottles, at the end of which I found myself

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radically

radically cured, and now can assure you, that I enjoy as perfect state of health as before my complaint.

I am, Sir, with gratitude and respect,
your much obliged humble servant,
PAUL MARTIN,

Coachman to Henry Carver, Esq. of Birmingham.

Witnesses to Paul Martin's declaration—P. F. Bourgeois, merchant; Thomas Warren, printer, Birmingham

C A S E II.

London, } Eleanor Smith, now of the parish of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, maketh oath and faith, that she, this deponent, for some months past had been afflicted with the most dreadful symptoms of the venereal disease, attended with chancres and sores of the foulest kind, together with the most excruciating and constant pains in her head and limbs, which reduced her to so miserable a state of lowness, that she could not walk across the room without assistance. This deponent also declares, that she was at the same time afflicted with what is called a hectic fever, in consequence of the above complaints: but by taking M. de Velnos' Vegetable Syrup, administered to her by Dr. Mercier, this deponent declares that she was radically cured; that she now remains in perfect health, and that all her sores are healed; without having any other remedy applied to them, except the Syrup used as a wash.

ELEANOR SMITH.

Sworn, Sept. 30, 1772, before me,

WILLIAM NASH, Mayor.

Witnesses to the cure—Henry Carpenter, James Peat, churchwardens.

C A S E III.

Mary Wilson, late of the parish of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, about twenty-two years of age, laboured under a combination of some of the most obstinate venereal symptoms. The injury had been received some years; and she had been long afflicted with the most excruciating pains, running sores in many parts of her body, chancres upon the labia, and a node of the size of a pigeon's egg, and excessively painful, on one of her legs. She was naturally of a scorbutic habit, and this, complicated with the venereal disease, had so emaciated her body, that even an attempt to effect the cure by the common method must have been attended with the most fatal consequences: but by taking Velnos' Vegetable Syrup, and observing a strict regimen, every symptom of her complaint was removed; she was perfectly cured, and in three weeks recovered her former strength.

Witness to the cure—Mary Walker, mistress of the parish workhouse of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate.

C A S E IV.

Mr. N. formerly of the parish of Maplebeck, in the county of Nottingham, mariner, had for fifteen years laboured under the scurvy, complicated with the venereal disease. He acquired the former in his youth, by the almost constant use of salt provisions at sea, and contracted the latter when about twenty years of age. Time had increased the symptoms to so violent a degree, that even life itself was become a burden. He had continual running sores in both his legs, a fistula in perineo, which had penetrated the urinary passage, so that he voided as much water through the wound as by the urethra. In this deplorable condition he began a course of the Syrup, which in about two months removed all his complaints, and in less than four he was radically cured, and has enjoyed a better state of health since than he ever could remember in any one period of his life.

C A S E V. *In a Letter.*

To Doctor M E R C I E R.

S I R,

The extraordinary cure I have lately received by a course of your Velnos' Vegetable Syrup, binds me in gratitude to make known to the public the wonderful effects of that most salutary remedy. At the time I began the Syrup, I was afflicted with the most melancholy and severe venereal symptoms that could possibly be; ulcerations of the worst nature in the throat and palate; almost all I drank came through the nose, the bones of which were considerably affected. I had constant excruciating pains in all my limbs, one of my knees was ankylosed, the ancles as well as the shin bones considerably enlarged. I had been salivated in the Lock Hospital, since which I have been under the hands of many of the faculty, and of the first consequence in their profession. Tired of life, and sunk in despair, I was advised to take your Syrup by a person receiving a cure in a similar case. I am now in perfect health, radically cured of all my disorders, and a living witness of the great efficacy of the Original Vegetable Syrup. In gratitude for benefits received, I request my case may be published, and am, thankfully, Sir,

Your ever obliged humble servant;

GEORGE OLIVER.

Long-Acre, Nov. 16, 1779.

The Public are respectfully requested to attend to the following recent and interesting proof of the superior efficacy of the ORIGINAL VEGETABLE SYRUP of Mr. De. Velnos, to mercurial remedies, under the best direction in the venereal disease.

Mrs. F——, a married woman, thirty years of age, had her breast drawn about five years ago. A month afterwards she had violent pains in her breast, and observed a small hole on one side of the nipple; the pains gradually reached the head, so that the motion even of a coach was excruciating; the shin bones were so affected, that she could not bear a stocking or the bed clothes on

them. In this state she applied to the late Dr. Hunter, who supposed the case to be venereal; but, on strictly examining her and her husband, gave up his opinion; ordered blisters to her head, with some other applications, with little effect. She continued in this miserable condition some time; when her body being covered with eruptions, the nature of her disease became apparent, and the symptoms of it discovered themselves on the husband; they were, therefore, in the spring of 1780, put upon a course of mercurials by a surgeon of character and skill. Though the evil was traced to its source, and it was discovered beyond a doubt, that her breast had been drawn by an infected woman; yet anxiety of mind, the malignancy of the disorder, and the baneful effects of mercurials, soon put an end to the life of the husband. The disease continued to encroach on her constitution, in spite of the endeavours of the surgeon; and when it made its appearance in her throat and mouth, she thought it her duty to procure other assistance. When she applied at Mercier and Swainson's, in Frith-street, Mr. Swainson was shocked at her appearance. The tonsils, the uvula, and many of the surrounding parts, were nearly consumed, and the spine was laid intirely bare. Two ulcers in the roof of the mouth had made their way through the palate, so that the liquids she attempted to swallow gushed out at her nose. Her constitution was injured almost as much by the mercury as by the disease; her appetite was nearly gone; her countenance pale; and her appearance cadaverous and shocking. She was immediately furnished with the Vegetable Syrup of Mr. de Velnos, and in ten weeks the ulcers were healed, the holes in the palate grown up, and she left off the medicine. She is now become fat, and her complexion fine and ruddy.

Mr. Swainson will refer any inquirer immediately to the patient, as well as to several persons of fortune and character who interested themselves in her fate, and were witnesses of the cure. A surgeon of the first eminence examined her, at Mr. Swainson's request, and he is ready to bear testimony to these facts.

Feb. 1785.

These are but inconsiderable testimonies of the virtues and effects of the Vegetable Syrup of Mr. de Velnos, compared with those which are in the possession of Mr. Swainson, and which the scrupulous delicacy of persons who have been relieved will not suffer to be made known; and it is reasonable to suppose; that even those must be inconsiderable compared to the cures which have been effected without any information being given of them to the Proprietor. It is, therefore, with reluctance that he draws the attention of the public to those foul haunts of dishonesty and imposture, where low, wretched, and desperate minds study to deprive him of the credit and advantage arising from his property, and the public of the benefit of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup.

While Mr. de Velnos was able to attend to the preparation of his Syrup, his receipt was an inviolable secret to all Europe; but he employed agents in several places to sell it on certain conditions. It was his misfortune to enter into an engagement for this purpose with Mr. Burrows, who had crept from a menial situation to that

of a surgeon, and who has since exhibited himself as a doctor of physic, with such a diploma as any man may obtain from a Scotch University for the mere amount of the fees. Mr. de Velnos not finding this Burrows so punctual in accounts as he liked, came over to England; where Burrows, perceiving the good opinion of the medicine spreading rapidly, substituted a preparation of his own in its stead, and had the unexampled audacity to aver, (what no chemist in Europe will pretend to be within the power of his art) that he had discovered by his *medical* skill the ingredients of Velnos' Syrup. He took out a patent, the common artifice of those medical adventurers who mean to impose on vulgar credulity. It was impracticable and unnecessary to take out a patent for Velnos' Syrup, because the ingredients were kept a profound secret, and the forms of office required that the ingredients of every medicine should be specified before a patent could be granted. This is a reason that must prevent the real proprietor of Velnos' Genuine Syrup from having recourse to patents; for no laws can give him so perfect a security of his property, as the total ignorance of all pretenders, in respect to the ingredients of the medicine. Burrows relied on the possibility, that these circumstances might be overlooked by a public, eager to receive that assistance which the Vegetable Syrup of Mr. de Velnos was known to afford: he therefore announced his own preparation, under the appellation of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup improved by Dr. Burrows. Many ignorant and credulous persons have been unfortunate enough to become dupes to these artifices, unexampled as they are in falshood and dishonour.

The career of iniquity is seldom prosperous or long. Mr. de Velnos, declining in health and advancing in years, sent Madame de Velnos to England to treat with Mr. Mercier, whom he had substituted for Burrows as his agent in selling the Syrup, *for the communication of the receipt*; and to prevent the effect of Burrows's pretensions, she made by her husband's desire the affidavit which is here subjoined. Mr. Mercier, a man of liberal education, was advised to take a degree, and to direct his reading to subjects connected with a species of medical practice into which he would necessarily be led. On Dr. Mercier's appearance as proprietor, Dr. Burrows renewed his pretensions, and succeeded sufficiently to advertise for some years, and to induce a Mr. Hodson, bookseller, at Cambridge, to purchase either a share, or the whole of his patent. In an advertisement here inserted, the reader will become better acquainted with this Hodson, and be informed by him of the real character of his friend Dr. Burrows. This complication of art and dishonour, to obtrude a preparation on the world under the name of Mr. de Velnos, without a plausible proof that he knew his receipt, and in defiance of the solemn affidavits of Mr. and Madame de Velnos, that he was wholly ignorant of it, did not support the *honest* association long; for Burrows being announced a bankrupt and disappearing, Hodson did not advertise, and the imposture seemed to have spent itself.

The cure of Mrs. Swainson of the palsy by the genuine Syrup of Mr. de Velnos, drew the public attention exceedingly to this excellent medicine, and induced Mr. Swainson to purchase the receipt

of Dr. Mercier for a very valuable consideration. This, like the warmth of the sun, while it brought satisfaction and advantage to the real proprietor, re-produced those insidious and dangerous serpents which had annoyed and disgraced him. Burrows and Hodson soon appeared, but each for himself; and they rose in their pretensions to public regard, in proportion to the success of the genuine Syrup in the hands of its real proprietors. Though Mrs. Swainson's was then the first and the only paralytic case in which the Vegetable Syrup had been tried, they instantly copied the advertisements of the proprietors, and announced the spurious imitations they vended as efficacious in palsies as well as numerous other cases in which they had never been administered. To say nothing of the unfeeling barbarity with which they would give their preparations to children and pregnant women, their opinion of the weakness and folly of the public must be great, to rest their hopes of success on the possibility that no inquiries would be made into the truth or falsehood of their pretensions to the possession of Mr. de Velnos' receipt, and that the cures performed by his Syrup would be mistaken for the effects of any wretched preparations which impostors might vend under the sanction of his name.

Mr. Swainson found himself involved in these embarrassments, after having given a very high price to Dr. Mercier for the original receipt of Mr. de Velnos, and quitted an easy and reputable business. He has no more idea of degrading himself into a quack doctor, or entering into competition with Burrows and Hodson, in their false claims of medical connections with great families, and relation to the university of Cambridge, than he has to dispute in slight of hand with Jonas, Katterfelto, or the noted Barrington. The claim of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup to public patronage is, that in scorbutic and venereal cases *it is above all the medical skill now possessed in England*, and requires nothing in the proprietor of the receipt but fidelity and attention in the preparation. Mr. Swainson will prove this truth, high and assuming as it may seem, by referring to families of rank, who after trying the first physicians in the kingdom, have been advised by those physicians to seek relief in the Vegetable Syrup of De Velnos. Some of the most eminent surgeons in London have not only given the same advice in the same circumstances; but after having tried the utmost effects of mercury and of their own skill, have themselves *sought and found their cure* in Velnos' Vegetable Syrup. In cases of this kind, it is true, medical persons have wished to avoid disgrace and injury by having their names inserted in advertisements, but they have readily consented to a private reference. If Burrows or Hodson could possess themselves of such advantages, though procured by Velnos' Vegetable Syrup, of which they are wholly ignorant, they would boast of them as their own, as they do of the protection of the Bridgewater family and of the University of Cambridge; and the names of the physicians and surgeons would be inserted in all the papers of the kingdom.

Mr. Swainson pretending to no medical skill, having no occasion for it, and possessing what is more valuable in all scorbutic and venereal cases, the original receipt of Mr. de Velnos, applies him-
self

self solely to the preparation and sale of the medicine, as he would of any other useful and valuable commodity; receiving and registering such cases and such accounts of cures as the patients chuse to have recorded for the inspection and benefit of others. This is the line on which alone he will move, and no consideration shall drag him among quack doctors. In the honest preparation and sale of a benign and wonderful medicine, he will not be insulted and defrauded with impunity by those who affect to cover their ignorance and villany with idle diplomas, titles and pretensions. On this principle he annexed to the first bill he published after his purchase of the property the following caution: "All pretended improvements and imitations of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup are dangerous impositions, and mere vehicles of sublimated mercury." This Mr. Swainson asserted on experiment; and he will instruct any gentleman, who will do him the honour of calling on him, in a short chemical process, which will convince him of the same truth; for though it be not possible, as Burrows has pretended, to discover the Vegetables which compose the Syrup, yet it is easy to know whether it contains any metal. Burrows was then advertising something in his own name, to which Mr. Swainson did not refer. Dr. Burrows thought, however, an opportunity offered of getting it confounded with that of Velnos'; he therefore, in the General Advertiser of January 21, 1784, opened his battery of self-adulation and falsehood. After dealing out these unsparingly, he thus displayed his chemical ignorance: "If there be any corrosive sublimated mercury in Dr. Burrows's medicine," thereby classing his preparation with the pretended imitation and improvement of Velnos, "and a piece of silver coin is put into it, the mercurial particles will adhere to it, and produce an immediate transmutation of color." This, like almost all Burrows's assertions, is absolutely false, and shews his ignorance can only be equalled by his dishonest assurance. Mercury will not approach metal dipped into Syrup in the manner he represents, or change its color. Wherever he picked up the conceit in his advertisement, it has served only to expose his want of chemical knowledge, and his dishonourable attempts to impose on the weak and credulous. *Dr. Burrows, in common with the public, shall in due time be taught a truly chemical method of detecting the cruel and villanous frauds of those who vend vehicles of mercury and antimony for vegetable syrups.*

In answer to Burrows's advertisement, Mr. Swainson inserted one in the General Advertiser of the 27th of January, exposing Burrows's pretensions to chemistry, and relating the nature of the connection he formerly had with Mr. de Velnos, which was that of an agent only to sell his medicine. Mr. Swainson had been a patient of Burrows's when employed by Velnos; had seen the deed which gave him that employment; and had known from Burrows himself, that his utmost pretensions were to the power of vending, not of preparing, the Vegetable Syrup. When Burrows forfeited the confidence of Mr. de Velnos, and was dismissed his employment, Madame de Velnos came over, Mr. de Velnos being confined by illness, and, after consigning the property to

Dr.

Dr. Mercier, by a deed which now lies open for inspection in Frith-street, made the following affidavit :

Affidavit of Mrs. de Velnos.

“ Jane de Velnos, late of Paris, but now residing in Dean-street, Soho, in the county of Middlesex, maketh oath and saith, That she is the wife of John Joseph Vergely de Velnos, the inventor and sole proprietor of a medicine known by the name of *Velnos' Original Vegetable Syrup*; and this deponent saith, that her said husband, having been afflicted with a severe and continual illness, hath long since intrusted this deponent with the secret for making the said medicine. This deponent hath since that time constantly sold and administered the said medicine, by her agents in Paris, and elsewhere in the kingdom of France, with the greatest success: and this deponent saith, that her husband having been prevented by such illness from coming to England, she hath lately, by virtue of a general power and authority given to her by her said husband, communicated to Peter Mercier, of Frith-street, Soho, in the county of Middlesex, doctor of physic, *all and every the ingredients* made use of in the composition of the said Syrup, and hath taken the said Peter Mercier into partnership with her said husband and herself, for the better administering the said medicine in His Britannic Majesty's dominions; the said Peter Mercier having been concerned in the sale and administration of the said medicine for three years past. And this deponent upon her oath saith, that the said medicine hath not any thing of a Mercurial, Antimonial, or Metallic nature whatsoever in its composition, but is made and prepared from simple Vegetables only. And this deponent farther saith, that she hath been so induced to communicate the said secret to the said Peter Mercier, as well in consideration of the great trust and confidence this deponent and her husband have in his integrity, as also, if possible, to prevent the public from being *imposed upon* by any medicine offered to them in the name of this deponent's husband, *every such medicine being spurious*.

“ JANE DE VELNOS,

“ BEN. BLUME, Interpreter.

“ *Sworn at the Public Office, in Symond's Inn,
the 13th of April, 1773, before me*
THOMAS CUDDON.”

Mr. Swainson was induced to insert these animadversions on Dr. Burrows, not only by his own interest, and the credit of his medicine, but by compassion and humanity to those who had recourse to Burrows's preparations, under a misapprehension that it resembled Velnos' Vegetable Syrup. An instance, among numbers of this kind, any person may be fully informed of, by calling on a very respectable family, at No. 39, Margaret-street, Cavendish-square. The lady in taking Burrows's Syrup was swollen to such a degree, and had so many other alarming symptoms, that she was considered and treated as a person dying from poison. Dr. Burrows was
sent

sent for, seemed greatly frightened, gave some silly advice, and no messages could bring him again. On being reproached with this in a printing office, where he was carrying his advertising deceptions, he seemed aghast at the discovery that the business had taken air; but recovering himself, his inherent genius suggested the following infernal insinuation: "It was not my Syrup; it was Hodson's: and how can I help it, if Hodson will poison people?" This Hodson is a bookseller at Cambridge; who first had the folly of purchasing a pretended receipt for preparing Velnos' Syrup of Dr. Burrows, and has since published advertisements of himself, as standing in some relation to the University on this ridiculous account, and having a degree in contemplation. He will probably appear a doctor; and then we shall have a Dr. Hodson and a Dr. Burrows contending for Velnos' Vegetable Syrup; of which neither of them is acquainted with a single ingredient. As a specimen of this controversy, which is already entered upon, the following letter is given, which Mr. Hazard, of Bath, had the candour and politeness to send to Mr. Swainson, and which may be seen in Friar-street by any gentleman who will be at the trouble of perusing it.

"S I R,

"March 16, 1784.

"Dr. Burrows having published a medicine in opposition to Velnos' Vegetable Syrup, the following state of facts is submitted to you, in order to prevent imposition.

"Dr. Burrows some years since by his imprudence contracted such a load of debts, that in order to secure one of upwards of 1000*l.* he assigned over his remaining share of property in the Vegetable Syrup (of which he had before sold the greatest part) and immediately went abroad. He lately returned to England, and is now an uncertificated bankrupt, and the profit arising from his share of the medicine above mentioned has not been sufficient to pay even the interest of the said debt. Conscious that he has not any right to Velnos' Vegetable Syrup, he has artfully changed his to Burrows's Vegetable Syrup.

"The proprietors of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup, who have been considerable sufferers by Dr. Burrows, rest their cause upon the honour of the country venders, not doubting but they will decline any connection with a man whose principles are so dishonest; and as it is intended to advertise this medicine very briskly, they are convinced that it will become an object worth your attention, particularly as they allow 2*s.* per bottle profit to the retail venders.

"Your orders, therefore, for the Vegetable Syrup, as also for any of the under-mentioned medicines (which will all be regularly advertised) will be punctually attended to by

"Your obedient servant,

"Cambridge.

"JAMES HODSON,

"A proprietor of, and sole agent for,
Velnos' Vegetable Syrup."

Burrows does not seem to have attended to this attack of Hodson's, probably because he was pressed hard in town by Mr. Swainson, who will never rest until he has demolished all his falsehoods,

hoods, subterfuges and pretences, and who will amuse himself with scourging him under every pompous form he assumes. After trying repeated evasions, and swelling into many characters of physical consequence, in which Mr. Swainson always held him up to contempt, he was forced, in the General Advertiser of the 13th of May, to produce the clause in his deed on which all his pretensions were founded ; and it is as follows :

“ I Solomon Schomberg, of the city of London, notary public, by Royal authority duly administered and sworn, do hereby certify and attest unto all whom it may concern, that the following is a true and faithful translation from an original deed, executed in Paris the 29th day of October, 1767, between Mr. John Joseph Vergely de Velnos, residing in Paris, on the one part, and Dr. John Burrows, then at Paris, on the other, and signed by the Earl of Rochford, then Ambassador at the said court.

(*Extract.*) “ That the said Monsieur John Joseph Vergely de Velnos has conferred and assigned to him, the said Dr. John Burrows, the right of *selling, vending and disposing* by exclusive privilege for his the said Dr. John Burrows’ own use, benefit and advantage, the Antivenereal Vegetable Syrup, throughout all His Britannic Majesty’s dominions ; he the said Velnos expressly promising and agreeing, not to assign the right of selling, vending, or compounding the same to any person or persons whatever, within the territories or dominions of his said Britannic Majesty, other than the said Dr. John Burrows, for the space of one hundred years. All which I do hereby attest in London, the 13th day of May, 1784.

“ SOLOMON SCHOMBERG, Not. Pub.”

The wretched genius reasons on it in a manner that utterly destroys the credit of all the pretensions he has ever made to the possession of Velnos’ receipt. It is thus :—“ Having stated these facts, from which it must evidently appear to all who are not wilfully blind, that Dr. Burrows was not only vested by exclusive privilege with the right of vending, &c. but also that the said De Velnos did expressly promise and agree not to assign the right of compounding the medicine referred to, to any other person than him, the said Dr. Burrows, for a stipulated term of one hundred years, which must be impracticable without the knowledge of the ingredients.”

The controversy is thus brought to a conclusion most dishonourable to Burrows, if any thing can dishonour him. The deed shews that he never has been in possession of Velnos’s receipt ; that Mr. de Velnos engaged only to *confine the sale* to him, and not to let any other have the preparation for one hundred years, on condition *that he was faithful* in his employment, and remitted to Mr. de Velnos the monies that were due on the sale : but falling in his engagement, Mr. de Velnos annulled the agreement ; employed Mr. Mercier in the same capacity, until Mr. de Velnos became too feeble to prepare the quantity demanded, and then consigned the *property* to Dr. Mercier, as appears by the above affidavit, and a deed

deed executed by Velnos and Mercier, which may be seen in Frith street.

The most curious part of the advertisement of Burrows, is that wherein he is reduced to prove on himself numerous falsehoods. He has spared no mode of asseveration, and no art of imposture, to make the world believe that his preparations were similar to that of Velnos, and he owes the bread he has eaten for years to the effects of these arts. He has sold to Hodson, the bookseller, a preparation, which he falsely calls Velnos' Vegetable Syrup improved by Dr. Burrows, and which Hodson, with a folly which may cost him something, calls Velnos' Vegetable Syrup. On Mr. Swainson's advertising a caution against spurious syrups, as vehicles of mercury, he says, General Advertiser, 21st January, "*his medicine* has been announced to the public for fifteen or sixteen years." His medicine, therefore, and *Velnos' Vegetable Syrup improved by Dr. Burrows*, must be one and the same thing; for no other medicines have been announced to the public in his respectable name: and yet, in the General Advertiser of the 13th of May, he solemnly affirms, "that the medicine he vends is solely of his own composition, exclusive of every idea of Velnos, Mercier, or any other name or title whatever; resting his claim, as heretofore, on the superiority of his medicine."

In these altitudes the real proprietor of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup is content to leave him; assuring him, however, the moment either his hunger or his native disposition prompts him to descend to feed on and invade his property, he will receive a proper chastisement.

The proprietor cannot dismiss this subject without obviating an objection arising from published cases of cures pretended to be performed by this man's preparations. All those which have been lately published in the papers are from a pamphlet at least ten years old; and the substance of that pamphlet is purloined from a French one of De Velnos, which may be seen in Frith-street.

Besides, he has reasons to suspect the following artifice has been practised, in order to open a trade on the credit of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup. A small quantity has been bought in Frith-street, and a patient cured, who has supposed he took a Syrup prepared in another place, and has consented to publish his case; which case has occasioned the sale of hundreds of bottles of the decoction of the woods, with fifteen or twenty grains of sublimated mercury, or an ounce of antimonial wine; which constitutes all the spurious preparations which go under names similar to that of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup. Impositions of this kind have not only immortalized the name of Burrows, given Hodson, the bookseller, a relation to the University of Cambridge, which he never would have otherwise thought of, but added to the honours with which Rivington has been loaded in New York, set up a pompous doctor lately in Holborn, and infested and injured the credulous in almost every part of the world.

By the publication of the above representation of impostures respecting Velnos' Vegetable Syrup, Burrows has been driven to the last resource of absurd iniquity, an *expurgatory oath*. When it was believed

believed that the Deity would inflict instantaneous and dreadful punishments on perjury, the law admitted a man's oath as aiding towards a proof of his innocence. Now there is no such persuasion, the religious punishments of villany are referred to the other world; expurgatory oaths are therefore abolished. Indeed, the prevalence of perjury in attestations for others is so great, as to strike at the utility of evidence, and to embarrass the administration of the laws. An oath, to repel the imputation of guilt made *by the persons charged with it*, is so far from being admitted, or having any effect of that kind, that it often operates a contrary way, and turns suspicion into conviction. Whether this may be the fortune of Dr. Burrows, Mr. Swainson is not concerned to determine. For if any gentleman wishes to be convinced of the atrocious villanies committed daily by venders of compositions called Vegetable Syrup, and will bring the pretended medicine (having bought it so that the vender had no suspicion of his purpose, otherwise the antimony or mercury will be withheld) Mr. Swainson will either instruct, or go with him through a short chemical process, which will carry the horrible conviction home to his mind. It is, however, fair in this state of the case, to present the public with Burrows's last attempt at exculpation.

A F F I D A V I T.

" John Burrows, of Mark-lane, in the city of London, M. D.
 " maketh oath and faith, that the medicine by him vended, under
 " the title of Dr. Burrows's Vegetable Syrup, hath not in its com-
 " position any thing of a mercurial, antimonial, or metallic na-
 " ture whatsoever; but is made and prepared from simple vegeta-
 " bles only.

" JOHN BURROWS.

" Sworn at Guildhall, London,
 " August 23, 1784, before
 " John Hart."

While the printer was composing this state of empirical imposture, the arrival of a Doctor Hodson was announced, as predicted by Mr. Swainson; and a controversy commenced in the papers between him and Burrows, on their right to a preparation, which they both at one time sanctioned with the name of Velnos, though neither had ever offered a plausible presumption that he had even surreptitiously seen the receipt by which his Syrup has always been prepared. It is not the business of the real proprietor of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup to determine on the merits of this controversy, or to point out who is the greatest dupe; it is his wish only to guard his property from invasion and *discredit* by the affected imitation of all impostures.

Burrows's receipt was, probably, sold into Hodson's family: but Burrows, by the affidavits of Mr. and Mrs. de Velnos; by the comparative effects of his preparation with that of De Velnos; by numerous chemical analyses; and by a thousand contradictory asseverations, which have rendered his character contemptible, and

par-

particularly by the patent he took out and sold to Hodson; of which an office copy is annexed: being by all these circumstances proved never to have had the slightest acquaintance with Velnos' receipt, he could not sell or convey into Hodson's family what he did not possess. Doctor Hodson, therefore, was ill advised, if he took a degree, and came to London with a reliance, that Burrows's syrup would pass for that of De Velnos.

In the country, such a misapprehension may be obtained with a little art and audacity. Here the Vegetable Syrup of Mr. de Velnos is known to the first and most respectable physicians and surgeons; impositions assuming its name are easily brought to a chemical test; and its character is so well established, that a diploma does not avail to shelter any imposture relating to it: for it is the genuine preparation of De Velnos which the public seek; and they attend to the honesty and integrity of the person who prepares it, and not to the addition of a diploma to his name, which is often a cover to false pretensions in physic as well as in literature.

If Dr. Hodson imagines he, or any of his relations, purchased of Burrows the receipt of De Velnos, or any imitation or improvement of it, he will soon, in this town, be convinced he is wretchedly deceived. If he thinks on the contrary, (and it is difficult to suppose, from his knowledge of the preparation conveyed by Burrows, and from his experience of Burrows's principles and conduct, he should not) he will find difficulties to struggle with in maintaining his pretensions which he will never surmount.

It is proper, however, to give a specimen of his endeavours. After some attempts to silence Burrows, which proved fruitless, he inserted the following equivocal advertisement; the title of it is actionable; and it affords but an indifferent specimen of the learning as well as integrity of this new adventurer. The *Pretended* improvement of Velnos' Syrup is secured by a patent, the real Syrup is secured by the inviolable secrecy of its proprietors. A patent is granted in one of the King's offices, and is always obtained for the fees, whether it be for useful or injurious purposes. Having the King's seal, it is called Royal Patents; but it is never supposed to have His Majesty's countenance, favor, or what is called patronage: he would otherwise be daily plunged into the utmost dishonour — Dr. Hodson, however, asserts the contrary: if from ignorance, his education has been deficient; if from design, his artifice is clumsy, and will disgrace him. He, however, ushers himself and Velnos' Vegetable Syrup (of which he is totally ignorant) under the immediate *patronage* of His Majesty — “Velnos' Vegetable Syrup” is “prepared in this kingdom agreeable to Royal patronage, only by Doctor Hodson, at his house, Northumberland-street, where the medicine may be had in the greatest perfection.”

On the appearance of this advertisement, Mr. Swainson inserted the following:

“A caution of the utmost importance to the Public respecting Velnos' Vegetable Syrup.

“Whereas, a person who styles himself Dr. Hodson, of Northumberland-street, has lately advertised a preparation, which he calls Velnos' Vegetable Syrup, by *Royal patronage*; this is to
“assure

“ assure the Public, that though His Majesty is the protector of
 “ science and virtue, he cannot have patronized the preparation of
 “ Velnos’ Vegetable Syrup, while the receipt for preparing it is
 “ wholly unknown to His Majesty, or to any of his subjects, ex-
 “ cept Dr. Mercier and Mr. Swainson, as may be seen in Frith-
 “ street, by the affidavits of Mr. and Mrs. de Velnos; that Doc-
 “ tor Hodson is totally unknown to Dr. Mercier and Mr. Swain-
 “ son, in whom the sole right of preparing and vending the said
 “ medicine is invested by deeds which are in their possession; and
 “ that the only person in London who sells Velnos’ Vegetable Sy-
 “ rup by their appointment is Mr. Atkinson, chemist, No. 196,
 “ Bishopsgate-street.”

Dr. Hodson felt the impropriety of his conduct, and advertised as usual, the pretended improvement by Burrows, of a medicine with which *he knows* Burrows and himself to be wholly unacquainted, as will indisputably appear by the following office copy of Burrow’s patent :

“ To all to whom these presents shall come, I, John Burrows,
 “ of the parish of St. James, Westminster, in the county of Mid-
 “ dlesex, Doctor in Physic, send greeting : Whereas His Most
 “ Excellent Majesty King George the Third did, by his letters
 “ patent under the Great Seal of Great Britain, bearing date 17th
 “ March, in the twelfth year of his reign, give and grant unto
 “ me, the said John Burrows, his especial license, that I, the
 “ said John Burrows, during the term of years therein expressed,
 “ should and lawfully might use, exercise, and vend within
 “ England, Wales, and town of Berwick upon Tweed, and
 “ also in all His Majesty’s colonies and plantations abroad, *my in-
 “ vention of a medicine entirely new* in these His Majesty’s king-
 “ doms, and not before practised therein by any person, common-
 “ ly called or known by the name of Velnos’ Vegetable Syrup,
 “ and of making and manufacturing the same from several rare
 “ and valuable vegetables and drugs; in which said Letters Patent
 “ there is contained a proviso, obliging me, the said John Bur-
 “ rows, under my hand and seal, to cause a particular description
 “ of the nature of my said *Invention*, and how the same is to be
 “ prepared, to be enrolled in His Majesty’s high court of Chancery
 “ within four calendar months after the date of the said recited
 “ Letters Patent, as in and by the same (relation being thereunto
 “ had) may more fully and at large appear — Now know ye that
 “ in compliance with the said proviso, I, the said John Burrows,
 “ do hereby declare, that my said *Invention* of a medicine entirely
 “ new in these His Majesty’s kingdoms, and not before practised
 “ therein by any person, commonly called or known by the name
 “ of Velnos’ Vegetable Syrup, and of making and manufacturing
 “ the same from several rare and valuable vegetables and drugs, is
 “ described in the manner following (that is to say) I take of the
 “ eccoprotic or milder purging plants, with a proper quantity of
 “ sal tartari, and let them infuse for some time, after which I
 “ make use of antivenereal and antiscorbutic plants moderately
 “ bruised before expression, adding a quantity of the juice of dan-
 “ delion; then depuration is necessary, freeing them from all
 “ heterogeneous matter; afterwards let them stand some time
 “ within

" within a moderate digesting heat, then decantation is required,
 " after which despumation, by adding whites of eggs to the fluid
 " to be clarified, and when boiled to a proper consistence, filtration
 " or percolation follow, by passing without pressure the fluid, to
 " be purified through proper strainers; at length it is made into
 " a Syrup for use. In witness whereof, I, the said John Burrows,
 " have hereunto set my hand and seal, the 7th July, 1772.

" JOHN BURROWS.

" And be it remembered, that on the said 7th of July, in the
 " year above mentioned, the aforesaid John Burrows came before
 " our said Lord the King, in his Chancery, and acknowledged
 " the specification aforesaid, and all and every thing therein con-
 " tained and specified in form above written.

" Enrolled the aforesaid 7th July, in the
 " year above said.

" Examined with the record, by
 " HENRY THOMAS,
 " Senior clerk of the petty bag."

The distribution of this account having had a sensible effect on the tattered remnants of Burrows's character, and checking the aspiring, but awkward attempts at imposition by Hodson, they appeared to unite their endeavours, though at perfect enmity, and boldly risked the last falsity, that their decoction is prepared according to Mr. de Velnos' recipe; though De Velnos has made an affidavit to the contrary; though Burrows was so far from being able to purchase the recipe, that he could not pay for the Syrup he sold as an agent; and though his patent is for a medicine of his own invention. The following advertisement silences both pretenders.

A Summary of Attempts at Imposture, of very serious Importance to the Health and Lives of those who are disposed to use Velnos' Vegetable Syrup.

Mr. Swainson, the present proprietor of Mr. de Velnos' recipe, for preparing the celebrated medicine called Velnos' Vegetable Syrup, purchased it at a very high price of Dr. Mercier, in consequence of Mrs. Swainson's being cured by it of a palsy, which had defeated all the medical skill that could be employed on it.

The deeds conveying this property, signed by Mr. and Mrs. de Velnos; their affidavits, that the recipe was unknown to all persons in England; and that their private letters and public reproaches of Dr. Burrows, for prefixing De Velnos' name to a decoction of his own (all of which are to be seen in Frith-street) left Mr. Swainson no doubt of the security of his property: nor did he imagine that in conscientiously preparing and selling the Syrup, according to De Velnos' receipt, he either enlisted himself among empirics, or could have any controversy with them.

The celebrity of this event, in the health of Mrs. Swainson, and the dire necessity of his situation, roused Burrows again to have recourse to his desperate measures. The only deed in Burrows's possession, to which he often alludes, as signed by Lord Rochford, proves he was employed merely to SELL what was prepared

prepared in Paris by De Velnos; and letters and affidavits of Mr. and Mrs. de Velnos, in Mr. Swainson's possession, and ready for public inspection, shew that Burrows paid only for one invoice: that he used the real Syrup as a decoy to the public to take his decoction; and that when De Velnos would trust him no longer, he took out a patent for a decoction, expressly said in the patent itself to be his own invention, to which he affixed De Velnos name. To this unexampled audacity, De Velnos, in his letters, and in the papers, repeatedly annexed the epithets, fraudulent and felonious; but was persuaded not to prosecute Burrows on account of his desperate situation. On such ground, and with such disgraceful pretensions, this man has been many years obtruding a spurious composition, as the salutary medicine of De Velnos, to the great discredit of the medicine, and the greatest injury to those who would have the benefit of it.

Though this be Mr. Swainson's real opinion of the pretensions of Dr. Burrows, and of those of Dr. Hodson, which rest wholly on Burrows's credit: though on being pressed by Mr. Swainson, Burrows has always shifted ground; sometimes claiming a knowledge of De Velnos' recipe, sometimes (as in General Advertiser of 13th May, 1784) denying any knowledge or idea of it, and assuming all the merit to himself; though his patent (an office copy of which lies in Frith-street) says, the Syrup he sells is his own invention; though the appearance, taste, and effects of the preparation of Burrows and Hodson, are as different from those of the Syrup of De Velnos as water is from Madeira; and, though the uniform characters of De Velnos and Mercier, and the heavy penalty incurred by their bonds, prevent a possibility of fraud, yet, to leave no room for doubt, Mr. Swainson repeats the following offer:—

If Dr. Burrows, or Dr. Hodson, or any other person, will produce a deed, affidavit, letter, or any other instrument signed by Mr. de Velnos, by which the knowledge of his recipe, and property in it, or any other power of preparing Syrup according to it, is assigned to them, or to any person in England, except to Dr. Mercier and Mr. Swainson, Mr. Hayman, or Mr. Cobb, attorneys No. 16, Clement's Inn, shall pay to the person or persons producing such deeds the sum of FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS.

In the mean time the public are respectfully warned, that Velnos' Vegetable Syrup, which has been above twenty years acknowledged as a specific in the venereal disease, efficacious in the scurvy, rheumatism and palsy, can be had genuine, only of, and by the order of, Mr. Swainson, at No. 21, Frith-street, Soho, where it is sold at 10s. 6d. the bottle, and, by his appointment, at Mr. Atkinson's, chemist, No. 196, Bishopsgate-street, and nowhere else in London.

N. B. The price of the spurious Syrups being lower than the genuine, it is requested that none but very faithful messengers sent for the latter, as fraudulent servants have bought the spurious to purloin the difference, and the most serious consequences have ensued to the constitutions of their masters; for they are vehicles of corrosive sublimated mercury, as Mr. Swainson can prove, notwithstanding the audacious and inhuman assertions, that they are solely vegetable.